

42390P12196

PATENT

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 10-16, 19-22, 24-26 and 28-42 of the application stand rejected while Claims 4-9, 17, 18, 23 and 27 are objected to as being dependant on rejected claims. Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1, 5, 6, 14, 18, 20 and 25 have been amended herein and Claims 4, 10-13, 17, 23, 27 and 31-42 have been canceled herein without prejudice to the filing of concurrent and/or future continuations and/or divisionals. Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the pending claims, in light of the Examiner's comments in the Office Action dated September 7, 2005, and in light of Applicant's amendments and remarks herein.

Claims 1-3, 10-16, 19-22, 24-26 and 28-42 of the application stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by Freund et al. (US 2003/0055962) while Claims 15, 24 and 39-42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Freund. Additionally, Claims 25, 26 and 28-34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Freund in view of Strebe et al. (Firewalls: 24Seven", Sybex, first edition, 2000, hereafter "Strebe"). Claims 4-9, 17, 18, 23 and 27 are objected to as being dependant on rejected claims.

The Examiner indicated that Claims 4-9, 17, 18, 23 and 27 are objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claims, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1, 5, 6, 14, 18, 20 and 25 have been amended herein to effect this change. As such, independent Claim 1 now incorporates the allowable subject matter of Claim 4, while allowable Claims 5-9 remain in original form but are now dependent on Claim 1. Similarly, the allowable subject matter of Claim 17 is now incorporated into independent Claim 14, Claims 15 and 16 now depend on this allowable claim and Claim 18 has been rewritten in independent form. The allowable subject matter of Claim 23 has been incorporated into independent Claim 20 and dependent Claims 21, 22 and 24 now depend on this allowable claim. Finally, the allowable subject matter of Claim 27 has been incorporated into independent Claim 25 and dependent Claims 26 and 28-30 now depend on this allowable claim.

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In summary, without conceding the propriety of the 35 U.S.C. §102 and 35 U.S.C. §103 rejections to the rejected claims, Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments herein render pending Claims 1-3, 5-9, 15, 16, 18-22, 24-26 and 28-30 allowable.

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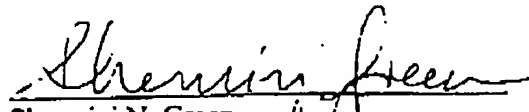
CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that pending Claims 1-3, 5-9, 15, 16, 18-22, 24-26 and 28-30 allowable are in condition for allowance. Applicant therefore respectfully requests an early issuance of a Notice of Allowance in this case. If the Examiner has any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (714) 669-1261.

If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 50-0221.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: November 15, 2005


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